REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 32-41 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 20-31 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 32-41 are added by the foregoing amendment. Applicants respectfully submit that support for new claims 32-41 is self-evident from Applicants' original disclosure, including the specification at page 87, lines 1 and 2, and Figures 10(c) and 10(e). Thus, no new subject matter is introduced by the foregoing amendment.

In the Office Action, claims 20-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Saeki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,078,727; hereinafter "Saeki"), in view of Yanagihara (U.S. Patent No. 6,028,726) and Yamauchi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,047,103; hereinafter "Yamauchi").

At the outset, Applicants note that no indication of consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) submitted on March 15, 2001, has been presently received from the USPTO. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that an initialed copy of the Form PTO 1449 attached to the March 15th IDS be enclosed with the next official correspondence from the USPTO.

Regarding the prior art rejection, claims 20-31 are canceled by the foregoing amendment and, thus, the rejection of the same is rendered moot. However, the cited prior art is discussed below with respect to new claims 32-41. Specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 32-41 patentably define over Saeki, Yanagihara, and Yamauchi.

Each of new independent claims 32-36 recites, among other features:

> ...a stream object...including one or more stream data units, and the one or more stream data units including one or more pairs of a time-stamp and a transport stream packet; and

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...said management information includes an area configured to store copy management information, and

at least one of the stream data units includes a header containing time-related information with respect to the transport stream packet.

Referring to the non-limiting example shown in Applicants' Figure 1, each stream object (SOB) includes one or more stream blocks (SOBUs), each of which include a pair of a time stamp and a transport packet.[1] Referring to the non-limiting example shown in Applicants' Figure 15, SOB General Information SOB_GI includes copy management information in SOB_TY.[2] Referring to the non-limiting example shown in Applicants' Figure 10, each stream pack includes an application header, which includes a time stamp position of first application pack (FIRST_AP_OFFSET).[3]

Saeki, Yanagihara, and Yamauchi do not render obvious new claims 32-36. Saeki is directed to a data structure including non-TS video object data,[4] in which each VOB information includes a time map table and a VOBU table.[5] Yanagihara is directed to recording MPEG2 format data as transport packets with a digital video tape recorder (VTR).[6] Yanagihara also depicts a data structure of transport packets, which include header and payload information.[7] Yamauchi depicts a data structure including CGMS data, which indicates whether copying of user data is permitted.[8]

However, none of Saeki, Yanagihara, and Yamauchi discloses or suggests a stream object including one or more stream data units, which include one or more pairs of a time-stamp and a transport stream packet, as recited in new claims 32-36. Further, the cited prior art does not disclose or suggest management information of a stream object, the management information including an area configured to store copy management information, as recited in

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[1] Applicants' specification at Figures 1(h), 1(i), and 1(k).
[2] *Id.* from page 86, line 26, to page 87, line 2.
[3] *Id.* at Figures 10(c) and 10(d).
[4] Saeki at col. 2, lines 36-40.
[5] *Id.* at Figure 9.
[6] Yanagihara at col. 1, lines 23-26, and col. 5, lines 8-12.
[7] *Id.* at Figures 22A-22D.
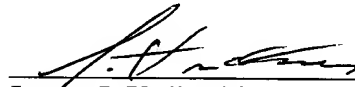[8] Yamauchi at Fig. 2 and at col. 13, lines 40-48.

new claims 32-36. In addition, the cited prior art fails to disclose or suggest a stream data

unit including a header containing time-related information with respect to a transport stream

packet, as recited in new claims 32-36.

As such, Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 32-36, and new dependent

claims 37-41, patentably define over <u>Saeki</u>, <u>Yanagihara</u>, and <u>Yamauchi</u>.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment,

the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable

action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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